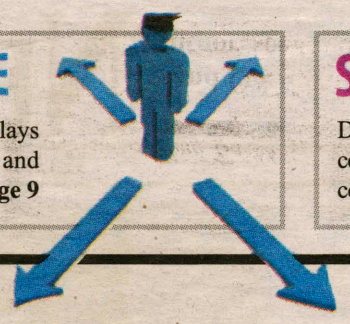
WATSON WINNERS

Seniors pursue post-grad projects on fair trade clothing, safe spaces, and voluntary poverty. **See page 3**

DECISION TIME

First-year Sampson Reider plays matchmaker for colleges and potential applicants. **See page 9**



SASHAY IN TO SPRING

Dancers give an entertaining and complex performance in a seasonal concert. **See page 10**

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THE SPECTATOR

Thursday, March 31, 2011

Volume LI Number 20

Pat Reynolds named new Dean of Faculty

HAMILTON.EDU

by Jordyn Taylor '12
News Writer

On March 10, the Hamilton community received an email from President Stewart announcing that Interim Dean of Faculty Patrick Reynolds has been appointed the college's new Dean of Faculty. The search for a new Dean of Faculty began last year, when former Dean of Faculty Joe Urgo left Hamilton to take up presidency at St. Mary's College in Maryland. Since then, Reynolds has replaced Urgo on an interim basis.

The primary task of Hamilton's Dean of Faculty is leading the college's 184 faculty members. The Dean of Faculty also presides over a number of academic offices and programs, including Burke Library, Emerson Gallery, the Registrar, the Physical Education Department, Athletics and Hamilton's off-campus study programs.

Reynolds's new position will certainly be demanding, but he is confident in his abilities. He admitted that one of the only things that makes him nervous is "finding enough time for family and interests outside of work," given the magnitude of his new responsibilities.

Despite his concerns, Reynolds hopes to continue with his previous roles as teacher and researcher alongside his Dean of Faculty position. Reynolds began his Hamilton career in 1992 as an assistant professor. He was promoted to associate professor in 1998, professor in 2005 and chair of the Biology department in 2006. An expert in marine biology, Reynolds has also spent a good deal of time conducting field research and contributing to scholarly scientific journals.

"I hope to teach one course a year, and to continue my research," Reynolds said. "The latter will be focusing on writing up projects for which I've already collected data, and working with collaborators who can continue the data collection on other projects." However, Reynolds plans on taking a break from doing fieldwork in order to make time for his Dean of Faculty responsibilities.

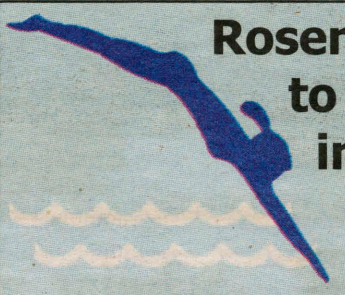
Aside from his involvement in the sciences, Reynolds has also served on a number of faculty and administrative committees including the Academic Council, the Committee on Academic Policy and the Honor Court. Reynolds said, "most of that work [involved] helping faculty and staff colleagues do their work towards our common purpose, and it is very satisfying to do so."

Apparently Reynolds' work so far has paid off, because faculty members seem incredibly confident that he will succeed in his new position. Edward North Professor of Classics Barbara Gold, who has been a Hamilton faculty member since 1989, said "Pat Reynolds will be a good fit for Hamilton. He is a long-time member of the faculty and understands how Hamilton works. He has a very good scholarly record – which is important for a Dean of Faculty – and cares very much about teaching."

Even students are looking forward to making acquaintances with their new Dean of Faculty. Rem Myers '11 said, "Joe Urgo did a good job getting to know the campus – he even wrote for *The Daily Bull* once a week! Hopefully Reynolds will also take time to get to know Hamilton students."

"I'll definitely miss seeing Joe Urgo and his famous scooter," agreed Zach Harbage '11, "but I'm sure Pat Reynolds is going to do a really great job."

While Reynolds enjoyed acting as interim Dean of Faculty, he knows he has plenty to look forward to in his new position. He said he is excited about "making things work well and run smoothly, finding ways to develop our curricular offerings, enhancing our academic support for students, supporting faculty and staff to do their work and communicating to the world off the Hill how wonderful Hamilton is!"



Rosenbaum sprints to national title in first season

by Caitlin O'Connor '14
Sports Editor

At a glance, first-year Maggie Rosenbaum seems like any other Hamilton student returning to campus after a long, relaxing spring break. Yet, last Saturday, March 25, she accomplished the spectacular feat of becoming the third woman and the first female swimmer in Hamilton's history to win an individual national title.

Rosenbaum, along with Joan Burton '13, Liz Bucceri '11 and Megan Gibbons '12, competed at the 2011 NCAA Division III men's and women's swimming championships at the University of Tennessee. While all four girls competed in relays, Rosenbaum alone was crowned a national champion, in the 100 yard backstroke with a winning time of 55.21 seconds. We spoke to her about her recent success:

What first brought you to swimming and what has kept you involved in the sport?

I first started swimming when a new fitness center opened in my hometown. We met the assistant aquatics director and she wanted to start a swim team.

see ***Rosenbaum,*** *page 14*

Hamilton senior publishes novel

by Sarah Destin '14
News Writer

College is a chance for students to explore their various academic interests. While a liberal arts education undeniably contributes to a person's success, many people find that social and cultural experiences at college inspire their future career paths. Aminata Barkham '11 is one of those people. Barkham found herself so inspired by her experience at Hamilton that she wrote a book set at a college campus very similar to Hamilton's.

The Mirth of College is Barkham's satirical novel about the present-day college experience. The novel was originally intended for only Barkham's family and friends, but Barkham is thrilled to have achieved her goal of being a published author before the age of thirty.

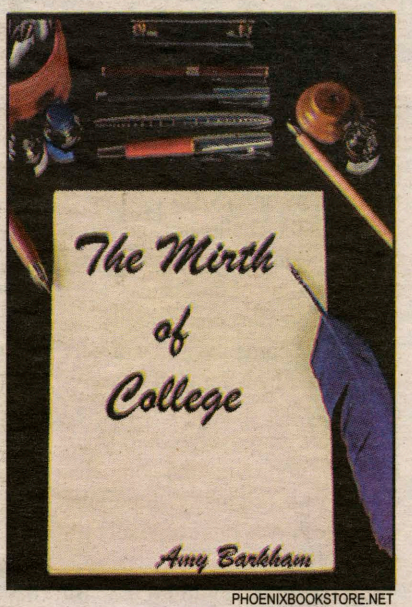
"This is my first published novel. I have been inspired by the time spent attending college, although this is a satire so it's very exaggerated," said Barkham.

The novel is set at the fictional Hegel College, which Barkham explained is based on by her time at Hamilton.

Barkham summarized her book: "A young English professor assigns an interesting exercise to her students in the hopes of becoming the 'cool teacher' by allowing them to expose their fondest memories of or best stories about Hegel College. This initiative takes a turn for the worse when she ends up involved in a scandal she cannot get out of," said Barkham.

After a year of editing, Phoenix Press International began printing *The Mirth of College* in March.

Barkham will be holding a book signing in the Hamilton College Bookstore on April 1, from 4:30 to 6 p.m.



PHOENIXBOOKSTORE.NET

For a profile and Q&A with the student author, see Page 8.

Student-run website encourages users to post anonymous opinions

by Kate Tummarello '11
News Editor

"Your school, your voice." That's the tagline of Hamilton's newest online open forum, HamiltonGhost.com.

At HamiltonGhost.com, users can, after registering with the site, post anonymous comments on every aspect of life on the Hill, ranging from the Jitney, to Hamilton's alcohol culture, to the open curriculum. The site was created in December by a group of Hamilton students who choose to remain anonymous.

"We do not include our names both because they are inconsequential to the ideas, and because we are such a small part of what this could become," said the creators.

Anonymity is one of the main components of the site. Although users must register, they can choose to post comments either anonymously or using their name, something the creators do not expect will be problematic. "Every comment must first be approved…which will help us keep things in check," they said. "We touch on sensitive issues, things very close to students' hearts, so heated debates will break out. As long as everyone refrains from ad hominem attacks, then we do not anticipate problems."

Scott Blosser '12, who has used the site, feels similarly optimistic about the anonymity policy.

see ***Website,*** *page 2*

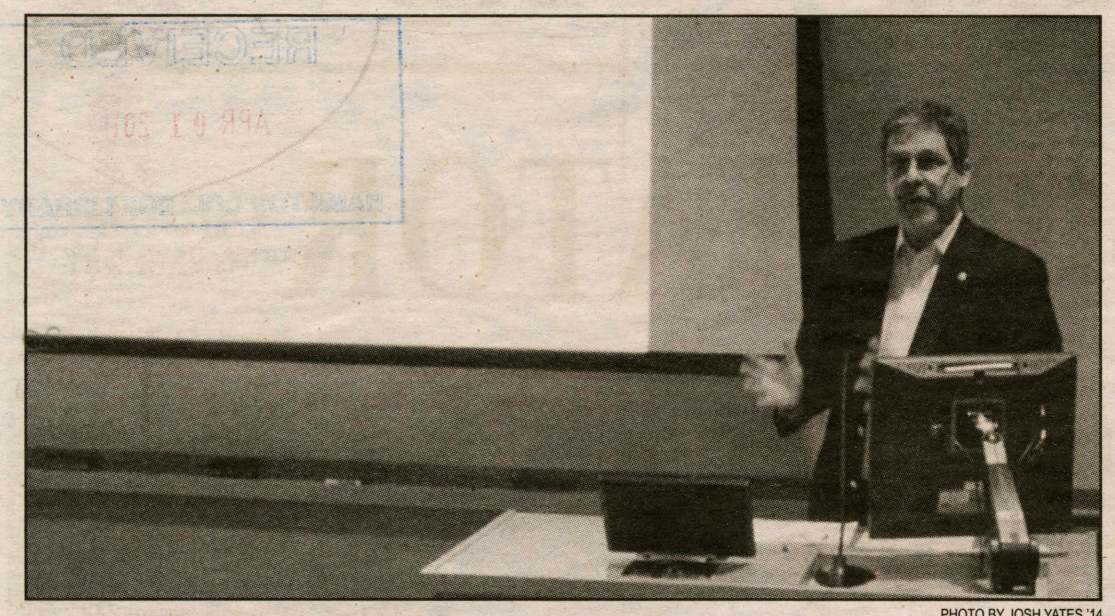


PHOTO BY JOSH YATES '14

GOATS IN WAR: Scholar and *Washington Times* journalist speaks about "goats" in Civil War

by Joshua Yates '14
News Writer

Yes, it does seem strange, but some of the best soldiers during the American Civil War were goats. No, not the goats one finds on a farm – but rather those special few who graduated last in their class at West Point Military Academy. Dr. James S. Robbins, senior editorial writer for foreign effairs at the *Washington Times*, as well as a senior fellow in national security affairs at the American Foreign Policy Council, was recently invited to campus by the Alexander Hamilton Institute and Libertas Americana Project to discuss his book entitled *Last in Their Class: Custer, Pickett and the Goats of West Point*. Robbins told students and faculty about how a leisurely visit to Gettysburg National Military Park motivated him to collect research about the importance during the Civil War of those soldiers who were given the "goat" label. "I originally collected these stories as a hobby," claimed Robbins, but after an offer for a book deal, his hobby soon became published literature.

Throughout his discussion, the relatively insipid concept of the "goat" came to life as Robbins revealed many fascinating traits of these soldiers, like how many of them tended to be physically brave and take risks. George Armstrong Custer, for example, is known as the "goat of 1861," but he rose to military fame during the Civil War and is widely considered one of the best U.S. generals ever, despite his campaign in Little Big Horn. Robbins was quick to point out that "graduating last during this time meant you were a survivor, since more than half of each incoming class dropped out before graduation." After the lecture, Robbins ended his visit by dining with faculty and students at the Alexander Hamilton Institute where he signed copies of his book.

Website provides forum for anonymous opinions

from ***Website,*** *page 1*

"I think that HamiltonGhost.com can help open up the campus dialogue because the anonymity policy allows students to address some of the most sensitive and complex campus issues (such as alcohol use) without the fear of scathing personal attacks," he said. "I have faith in the Hamilton community and believe that we can use the website in mature manner for our own mutual benefit."

When he posted on the site, Blosser used his full name. "Those are my beliefs, and I'm not afraid to stand behind them," he said. "If anyone disagrees, then by all means tell me how or why I am wrong. I welcome the challenge, and it can only elevate our awareness and understanding of the issues."

The creators compared HamiltonGhost.com to a similar project undertaken by Microsoft employees to create a forum where all Microsoft employees could share ideas for improving the company, which was originally unpopular with executives but eventually inspired change.

"We think Hamilton has…in every student, [the] urge to make things better than they are, the will to passionately defend what they believe in simply because they know that we can all change for the better," the HamiltonGhost.com creators said. "We live and learn in a pretty cool environment, and we hope to harness the collective intelligence and passion on this campus for the better."

Others are less optimistic about the practical results of a site like HamiltonGhost.com. "This site seems to be trying to have substantive conversations, which would be awesome, but I doubt that is what will happen," said Chip Sinton '12, Editor-in-Chief of *The Duel Observer*. "On a campus our size, those who would be willing to spend the time to type out a long, thoughtful paragraph or two on college policy are probably already involved in some way with college policy."

Currently, the site has 14 central topics in addition to providing individual pages for each academic department. At press time, the most popular central topics seemed to be "Alcohol" and "Meal Plans," with six and four responses, respectively.

The creators predict that the site will gain more momentum with students over time. "We know that the opinions are there," they said, "and we were generating over 300 views per day before [Spring] break began, but students are reluctant to comment. That will come in time." On March 2 the creators wrote that the site had already been viewed over one thousand times.

Georgia Mierswa '11, Editor-in-Chief of *The Continental*, feels that the site provides a forum that other campus media outlets do not, and she is optimistic about the future of HamiltonGhost.com. "Right now, HamiltonGhost.com remains pretty much unknown to most Hamilton students, so its impact is quite small, but I hope they continue to publicize themselves around campus with the help of other publications," said Mierswa. "Written debate over the course of a month or a year may prove itself more effective than a handful of class discussions."

Others are concerned that the site could devolve rather than evolve. "Sadly, a more substantive JuicyCampus won't work," said Sinton. "The only way this becomes viable is if it gets publicized and then turns into a cesspool where 'elite' fratsters brag about money, 'garden tools' and clothes, while girls compete to see who can expose small sex organs or future Rainbow Alliance membership."

Senior Gift Committee meets most recent goal, pushes on to 79 percent participation rate

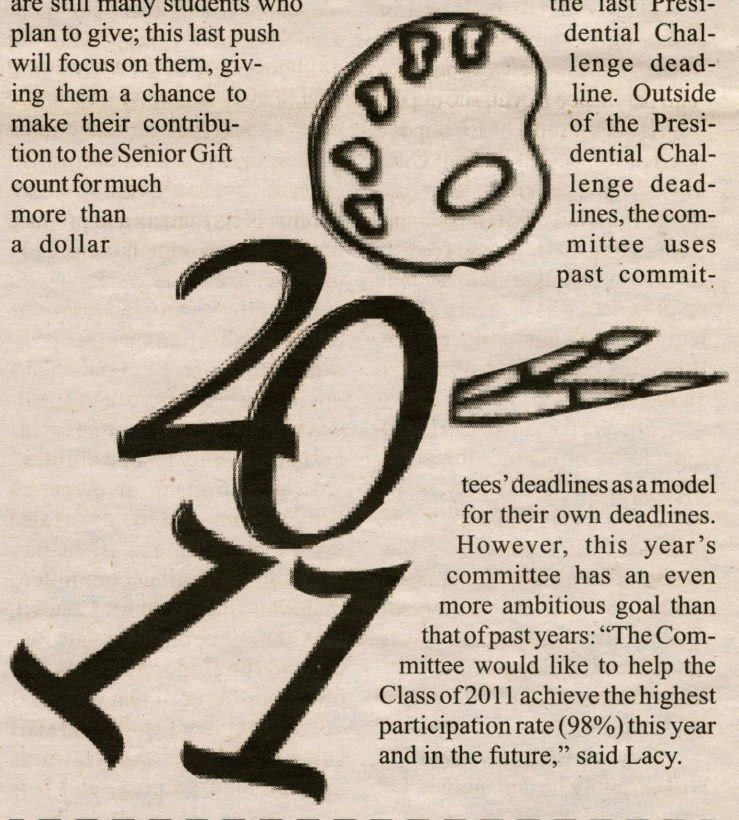
by Emily Gerson '11
Features Editor

The Class of 2011 Senior Gift Committee has met its most recent fundraising goal, with a 79.2 percent participation rate and $19,780 in gifts. "The Senior Gift Committee has surpassed all of its goals thus far, often in advance of the Presidential Challenge deadlines," said Jake Lacy '11, co-chair of the Senior Gift Committee "As a result, the Committee has received an additional $6,000 from President Stewart for the Senior Gift."

Before the next Presidential Challenge deadline, May 6, the Senior Gift Committee must garner 54 individual gifts in order to reach a 90 percent participation rate, according to Lacy. "It is essential that Committee members continue working hard to reach out to students who have not had a chance to give to the gift yet," he said. "There are still many students who plan to give; this last push will focus on them, giving them a chance to make their contribution to the Senior Gift count for much more than a dollar amount."

To encourage seniors to donate, the committee has provided incentives such as a Hamilton College calendar and Senior Gift 2011 pint glasses, and has also held social events to promote the cause. "The long-term goal of the Senior Gift Committee is to foster good giving habits among future alumni," said Lacy. "Research has shown that Hamilton seniors who give $5 or more to their Senior Gifts are more likely than lesser donors to continue to give back to the institution post-graduation."

Although there are no official dates on which the committee must meet, it has set incremental fundraising goals in an attempt to obtain as high a participation rate as possible. Additionally, the Presidential Challenge provides monetary rewards for attaining certain goals, such as the $6,000 incentive the committee received for meeting the last Presidential Challenge deadline. Outside of the Presidential Challenge deadlines, the committee uses past committees' deadlines as a model for their own deadlines. However, this year's committee has an even more ambitious goal than that of past years: "The Committee would like to help the Class of 2011 achieve the highest participation rate (98%) this year and in the future," said Lacy.



Student Assembly Update

by Kate Moore '12
Managing Editor

Committee Reports

The Food Committee is working with Bon Appetit to hold a pizza tasting next Thursday. Students may vote for new pizzas that will be served in the dining halls. The Student Interest Committee has plans to bring a world journalist from *The New York Times* to lecture on campus in Fall 2011.

Funding

The Student Assembly Minutes from Feb. 28 indicated that there was a balance of $0.00 in the Student Assembly Treasury. To clarify, SA still has funding. Clubs were encouraged to submit semester-long proposals back in January, so many have received their allocated funds for the remainder of the year. In addition, SA recently received almost $12,000 in rolled back funds that had previously been allocated for the Class & Charter Day concert and FebFest.

Three Hamilton seniors awarded Watson Fellowships

by Emma Laperruque '14
Production Editor

Only three schools had three students win Thomas J. Watson Fellowships this year. Hamilton was one of them.

On March 15, the Thomas J. Watson Fellowship announced its awardees for the 2011–2012 year. Of the 40 graduating seniors who earned this distinguished fellowship, an impressive three were Hamilton students: Mary Phillips, Nathan Schneck and Julia Wilber. Established in 1968, the Watson Fellowship provides an extraordinary opportunity for college graduates to receive a $25,000 grant and spend a year traveling the world outside the United States for independent study. Its website explains that the Fellowship is meant to "enhance [students'] capacity for resourcefulness, imagination, openness and leadership and…foster their humane and effective participation in the world community."

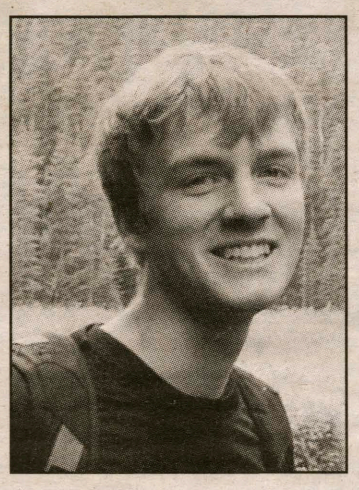
A comparative literature and Hispanic studies major, Mary Phillips's project is titled, "Safe Spaces: All-girl Environments and Their Role in Community Development." In Guatemala, South Africa and perchance Egypt, she hopes to "seek out safe spaces for impoverished girls ages 10-19," in order to "understand the diversity of challenges girls face and how safe space programs enable young women to challenge gender discrimination to better their lives and benefit the entire community."

Nathan Schneck, a biochemistry/molecular biology major, plans to explore Thailand, India and Argentina in his project, "Voluntary Poverty: A Means for Individual and Community Transformation." Schneck states: "Religious communities that embrace voluntary poverty provide an intriguing model that responds to the material and spiritual needs of the poor." He hopes to "examine how this practice functions as a means and model for individual and community transformation" by living and working with members of these communities.

Schneck, who heard the good news about the Fellowship on his birthday, said, "I felt incredibly blessed, stoked, humbled, thankful to receive the invitation and grateful to all the people who've supported and inspired me."

Julia Wilber, an interdisciplinary studies major with a concentration in social justice, will travel to the United Kingdom, Australia, Bolivia, India and Japan in order to answer the question: "How could a piece of clothing bring social and economic empowerment to marginalized communities around the world?" Her project is titled, "A Single Thread: Producers and Consumers of Fair Trade Clothing." By meeting various artisans, she seeks to understand "the cultural, political, social, and economic tendencies around the world that inform this unique type of consumerism," Fair Trade, and "determine what compels consumers and producers to 'buy into' this non-conventional trade system."

Forty colleges and universities are eligible to nominate students to compete for the Fellowship. Of these participating institutions, 24 were represented with awards this year.



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From top to bottom: Seniors Mary Phillips, Nate Schneck, and Julia Wilber.

Faculty, students, Al Ham participate in America's Greatest Heart Run and Walk

by Evan Klondar '11
Editorial Page Editor

No matter how fast they crossed the finish line or what distance they traveled to do it, nearly 100 members of the Hamilton community were awake early on March 5 for the 37th annual America's Greatest Heart Run and Walk. The event attracted 8,444 participants in total and raised over $1 million according to the Utica *Observer-Dispatch*.

Hamilton's team was led by Lecturer in Music Performance Colleen Pellman and Edmund A. LeFevre Professor of English Emeritus and Lecturer in English John O'Neill.

Pellman said that she has participated for nearly 20 years. "I originally became involved because of heart disease in my husband's family," she said. Her participation has coincided with the growth of Hamilton's team to its current size of approximately 90 participants.

Pellman emphasized that many different teams and organizations at Hamilton were involved. One of the organizations involved was the sorority Alpha Theta Chi, whose team captain, Kara Shannon '14, said "As a team we were proud of how much money we were able to raise for this great cause. The walk...is about the patients the American Heart Association [we] can help."

Al Ham was a frequent sight at the event, often cheering on the Hamilton runners and participating in the three-mile walk. Pellman appreciated his presence, saying the College's mascot served as a "good representative for the College."

The final fundraising total for the Hamilton team will not be known for at least a month. Due to the size of the event, even Hamilton's attendance is, at press time, only an estimate. The organizers of the event will publish a final count of both the money raised by the Continentals and the number of Hamilton participants in early May.

Even before the final numbers are released, Hamiltonians who participated can be proud of their accomplishments. Pellman is already looking forward to next year; she observes that a number of seniors on the steering committee are graduating. She encourages anyone interested in "being part of [something] larger" to contact her or Professor O'Neill to contribute.

AMHERST BATES BOWDOIN COLBY CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

NESCAC News

by Joshua Yates '14
News Writer

Amherst College

"It's probably 'cause, you think you're cooler than me." Well, students at Amherst recently feel they're cooler than everyone else because for this year's Spring Concert, Travie McCoy of Gym Class Heroes and White Panda are opening for lead performer Mike Posner.

News of Posner's selection by the Program Board (PB) was a surprise because Posner "was not one the artists featured in the school-wide poll," but PB co-chairs Sabrina Stavonor '11 and Ian Mellis '11 told *The Amherst Student*, "It is our primary goal to bring the best and most desired concert possible to campus." However, many thought this would not be possible. PB reportedly ran into problems, when "an unnamed candidate, who had been booked, backed out at a late hour in order to prepare for an international tour," according to the *Student*. "We consulted with our booking agent to arrange a concert that we feel accurately reflect[ed] the interests of the student body, albeit with different artists…[and feel] not only are these popular artists, but this is the first time in recent memory that Amherst has gotten three artists to perform at the [Spring] Concert," said Stavonor and Mellis. The concert will take place on April 15.

Middlebury College

For him, it's probably the scariest moment of his life, being held prisoner by a foreign government, but for Tik Root's '12 family and friends, it's probably worse. According to *The Middlebury Campus*, the "Vermont House of Representatives received notice that Root is currently being held by Syrian authorities for his involvement in a protest on Friday, March 18." Root is currently studying abroad in Damascus, Syria after being evacuated from the C.V. Starr-Middlebury School in the Middle East in Alexandria, Egypt on Jan. 31, during the protests against former President Hosni Mubarak, reports the *Campus*.

Root's father, Professor of Biology Tom Root, tells the Campus he has "contacted the State Deptartment regarding his son, and was told the U.S. Bureau of Consular Affairs [would make] inquiries at the Syrian Ministry of the Interior as to [his son's] status." The *Campus* reports the administration "has also created a web page where updates about Root will be posted, and Root's friends created a Facebook group where other friends can show their support." The Roots are appreciative of the actions taken by the college, but all they can do now is wait, hoping to see their son again.

Tufts University

In light of the recent humanitarian disaster that has all but brought Northern Japan to a halt, Tufts students have helped The Japanese Culture Club (JCC) raise over $6,000 to support relief efforts, according to *The Tufts Daily*. *The Daily* also reports, "The club additionally created a blog, titled Tufts Supports Japan, which provides stories and news about the situation in Japan and allows the blog's visitors to donate using PayPal." "We tried to get fundraising through PayPal so that people could donate through the blog," JCC co-president Jason Moloney '11 told the *Daily*. "That's where a large portion of our fundraising came [from]."

Sho Igawa '12, the other co-president of the JCC, told *The Daily* they are planning a charity concert on April 15, featuring a capella groups and other student acts. The JCC wants to raise more money, but Moloney told the *Daily*, "our biggest problem is that, coming back from break, a lot of people might be forgetting about this crisis." To alleviate this issue, the JCC "has ordered a thousand buttons to distribute to donors, helping to remind them of the disaster," according to Igawa. Nonetheless, the achievement made so far is impressive itself and all donations will be given to the American Red Cross.

MIDDLEBURY TRINITY TUFTS WESLEYAN WILLIAMS

Science News

Dr. James Fryer explains the psychology behind academic motivation

by Julia Litzky '12
Science Editor

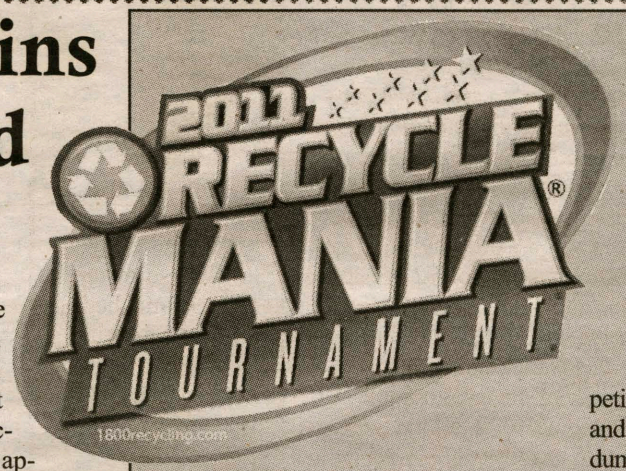
Why are some students focused on learning material for the sake of learning, whereas others focus on their grades? On Marcg 10, Dr. James Fryer, of St. Lawrence University, presented his and others' research on how grades affect the goals students set for themselves in a talk titled "When to persist and when to desist: Stability and change in academic achievement goals." Fryer's research focuses on which goal-setting approaches are both most efficient and stable.

Fryer discussed three goal-setting approaches that determine the initial goals people set for themselves and how these initial approaches could predict how the students' goals would change based on the grades they received. To answer these questions, Fryer assessed students' goals before and after exams and compared how much goals-setting approaches changed based on the initial goal-setting approach that a student used.

The first approach is the mastery approach, in which students want to master a skill for the sake of mastering it and set their goal as doing as well as they can. This approach is optimal because it is associated with interest and high time input. If students with this approach do poorly on a first exam, they might adopt the second approach, the performance approach. In this approach, students strive to do better than others. However, this change from the mastery approach seems to be only initial, and students will often maintain the mastery approach goals in the long term.

Although the performance approach is associated with higher grades, it can be a predictor of which students eventually change to the third approach, the performance avoidance approach. This third approach is the worst of the three, as it usually is correlated with high levels of stress and anxiety. However, it seems that consistent failures are necessary for a student to develop the performance avoidance approach.

This research was mostly done with students in classes much larger than the sizes of Hamilton's classes. However, Fryer's research still highlights the importance of encouraging learning for the sake of learning and not overly stressing standardized testing or grades.



Update: Hamilton ranks 37th of 363 Schools

by Julia Litzky '12
Science Editor

As RecyleMania 2011 comes to a close, Hamilton has improved its recycling efforts by five percent compared with last year's results, and, as of March 19, is recycling 25.92 percent of its waste. As of week eight of the 10-week competition, Hamilton ranks 37th out of 363 schools in terms of pounds of waste recycled per person. The annual competition, in which Hamilton competes to increase the amount it recycles in comparison to other schools, will end next week.

The College and University Recycling Council (CURC), the organization that runs RecycleMania, calculates the results for each school using data on the pounds of waste recycled by the campus, which are submitted by Hamilton's Physical Plant weekly.

According to Terry Hawkridge, assistant director of Physical Plant, Bon Appetit's efforts to recycle cardboard, paper and containers instead of putting it in the dumpsters has been essential to the improvement. The Recycling Task Force, which organizes RecycleMania, hopes that Hamilton's recycling will further increase when the school begins composting next week. Composting should reduce the 650 tons of waste the school produces weekly by about 5 tons.

Task Force Member Jen Santoro '11 explained: "Our numbers for RecycleMania this year are hovering right around 25 percent, which isn't terrible (and is certainly better than previous years). Many of the schools ahead of us in the competition have composting systems in place, so considering that we're doing fairly well for a school that doesn't compost. We hope to improve our numbers near the end of the competition when we initiate compost next week."

Students and faculty can continue to help by ensuring that any recyclables are put in the appropriate bins rather than the trash. Hawkridge suggests choosing to clean out your desk or room during the next week to help Hamilton increase the recycling rate.

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Need-blind: setting our sights on success

Earlier this month, 1,408 high school seniors received the large envelope from Hamilton College. While the admissions process is a fairly standard procedure, the accepted Class of 2015 is remarkable for two reasons: it represents the second regular admission group to be admitted need-blind and it is the strongest pool of applicants in Hamilton's history. While it is impossible to establish a concrete connection between the academic success of the class and the policy under which it was admitted, this is a happy coincidence at the very least. The College announced its new need-blind admissions policy a year ago, and it appears to have been successfully pilot-tested.

Need-blind admissions allow the College to admit students without consideration of their financial need. This reflects a priority in admitting the best and the brightest, and the Board of Trustees has committed to funding this goal. Each class admitted need-blind will cost about $500,000 each year, or $2 million over the course of its Hamilton career. After approving the policy last year, the Board of Trustees launched a $40 million endowment campaign to support need-blind admissions. Until the endowment is fulfilled, funds from the Bicentennial Initiative will help cover the cost. The Spectator lent its support to the need-blind program when it was first announced, and we find it reassuring that the College's egalitarian efforts have thus far received the financial support necessary for their realization.

Need-blind admissions began with Early Decision I applicants last December, resulting in one of the strongest classes to date. A recent testament to the Class of 2014's successes are on these pages: we covered first-years Maggie Rosenbaum's and Sampson Reider's respective athletic and innovative achievements. Now, the Class of 2015 promises to be equally successful, if not more so. This year, Hamilton had the greatest number of applicants (5,264) in its history. The need-blind policy clearly bolstered the College's appeal to applicants and their families.

With more applicants, Hamilton was able to be more selective. This is another indicator of Hamilton's elite status. The average admit's SAT score was a record-high 1415 (715 writing). Eighty-six percent are in the top 10 percent of their high school class. This class is also strong in regard to diversity: 24.4 percent are multicultural students from the United States and four percent are international. These statistics are all the more impressive compared to those of the Class of 2010, admitted in spring 2006: average SAT scores were 1386, and 92 percent were from the top 20 percent of their high school classes. Twenty percent were multicultural students from the United States and four percent were international.

Discernible improvements have already occurred in the year since need-blind admission was instituted. If the Trustees continue to lend their support and the Bicentennial Initiative continues to provide sufficient funds, this new policy can only lead to good things for the Hamilton community and the College's prestige. We look forward to the continued improvement of Hamilton's incoming classes in the years to come.

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Letters-to-the-Editor Policy

The Spectator's Letter-to-the-Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

Nevertheless, *The Spectator* has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. The Spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

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Interdisciplinary majors: Arduous, yet enlightening

by Danielle Brockmann '13
Opinion Writer

Interdisciplinary majors were once seen as students who chose to study everything, rather than select a focused and disciplined major provided by the college. Such degrees were once considered worthless, since they did not provide a particular skill set valued in the work force. However, in our current society, youth culture is more profitable than ever, and when people become millionaires seemingly overnight from intangible products such as social networks and apps, employers begin to think "outside of the box" as well.

Such a course of study is not for everyone. Do you even know anyone who created his or her own concentration? Probably not, since there are only nine reported concentrators currently on campus. Many students, and even some professors, are not aware that such an option exists. I only found out about the major by browsing Hamilton's labyrinth of a website. After asking around, I was shocked that so many people thought it did not exist, was a remnant of a previous Hamilton and was not deleted from the website, or that it was impossible to get approved so students did not bother with it. In actuality, Hamilton currently offers many pre-designed interdisciplinary concentrations to choose from such as World Politics and Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

So what actually is an interdisciplinary concentration at Hamilton? A self-designed course of study combines two or more departments on campus that meets specific needs or academic goals of a particular student that cannot be met with a pre-designed concentration.

Each proposal is approved on a case-by-case basis, as there is no catalog of previously created majors to select from. In fact, the school only recently began keeping records of proposals (and, of course, such information is not available to public eyes.

How does one create such a major? Well, it's actually a very simple process. First a student needs to be discontented and feel that his or her academic goals are not being met. Then he or she writes a proposal describing every detail imaginable about his or her imaginary major, such as goals, proposed classes, alternate classes, why his or her needs cannot be met with a traditional major, how this will impact his or her post-graduate life… Oh, and did I forget to mention the signatures of approval needed from his or her current advisor, the chairs of each department selected and a professor who is willing to serve as his or her advisor for the major? Phew!

But like all things in life, anything that is worth having requires hard work. Even though our society is beginning to see the value of a non-traditional course of study, this does not mean that the world has become accepting of youth culture's need for instant gratification. This is beneficial, for it shows employers that you are determined and are willing to find a solution if goals are not met. Instead of complaining, you were innovative and found a solution. As opposed to thinking 'outside of the box' (so trite), you built a new box by creating new bridges between different disciplines while following the guidelines and educational philosophy of the College. And most importantly, not only are you confident in your ideas and work ethic, but your professors are, also.

> **"I have discovered much about the impact I wish to have on society, the strengths I can rely on to achieve this, and the subjects I have yet to study which will prove to be integral to my goals."**

My journey of hunting the elusive snark began exactly one year ago. On this journey of researching and planning, however frustrating it may be at times, I have discovered much about the impact I wish to have on society, the strengths I can rely on to achieve this and the subjects I have yet to study which will prove integral to my goals.

Although such consciousness can be achieved with any major, there is something notable about a personalized course of study in a society that praises individuality. Regardless, I am grateful for the opportunity.

Letters to the editor

Re: Credit/No Credit option

I wanted to bring to your attention a recent letter that I received from the Committee on Academic Standing. To give you some background, I petitioned to take Swahili (CLNG 122) Credit/No Credit past the deadline. I decided to take Swahili this semester after developing a strong love for the language during my semester in Kenya and also in the hopes of leading student trips to East Africa in the future. Swahili has proven much more challenging than I had anticipated, especially since my class time in Kenya was only six weeks, as opposed to the fourteen-week Hamilton semester. Thus with my Swahili grade relying solely on two intensive oral exams via Skype, as well as feeling behind in the course material and wanting to be able to focus more on my senior thesis and teaching English at the Utica Refugee Center, I deemed that it may be a good idea to take Swahili Credit/No Credit.

The Committee on Academic Standing granted my request under the condition that I write a "5-page essay about responsibility and the need for deadlines." As a second semester senior, I found this condition to be not only demeaning of my experiences and accomplishments at Hamilton, but also undermining of the rigorous academic standards that this institution is built upon. While I admit that perhaps I should have anticipated my need to take Swahili Credit/No Credit in time for the deadline, and I understand the point that the Committee is trying to make, I do not think that this condition is an appropriate one for the caliber of Hamilton's students or academics.

As a varsity athlete three out of my four years at Hamilton, an Adirondack Adventure leader, a Resident Advisor, and a Peer Counselor at the Career Center, my daily life at Hamilton is dictated by responsibility and deadlines. Furthermore, I have secured a two-year job with my Congressman in Washington D.C. and have been accepted into law school. The 5-page essay requirement seems to suggest that I do not understand the role and importance of responsibility and deadlines despite my leadership, involvement, and academic strengths at Hamilton. Requiring Hamilton students to write essays on trite topics diverts time away from other arguably much more important pursuits such as senior thesis research.

Of course I am capable of writing a 5-page essay on responsibility and the importance of deadlines. I, as well as my fellow Hamiltonians, likely have been capable of this since at least fifth grade. I am disappointed that this arbitrary essay even has a place at Hamilton College. I believe that the Committee on Academic Standing should adopt an alternative means to evaluate whether or not a student is qualified to exercise Credit/No Credit after the deadline. I have decided to devote the time to Swahili rather than meet this trivial condition. Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,
Haley Peterson '11

Re: Outdated classrooms

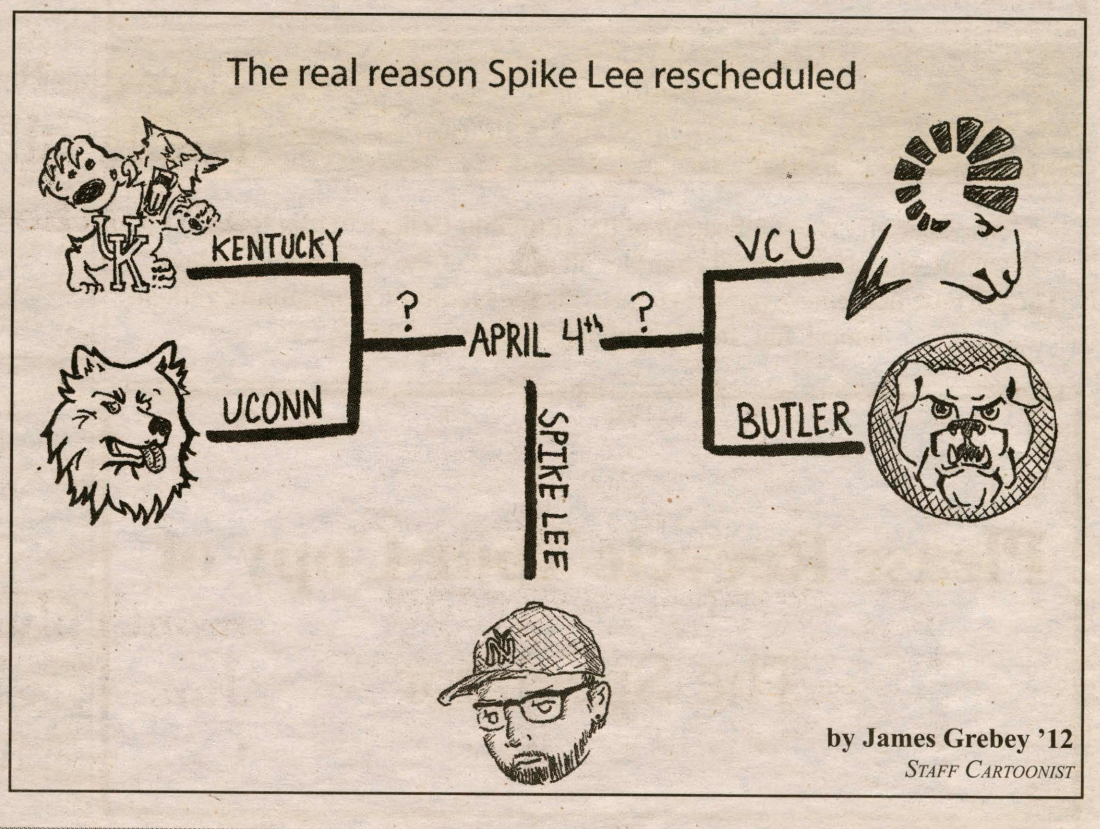
I am writing to discuss one of the few blights to our otherwise stunning campus: outdated classrooms. Perhaps some enjoy taking classes in the same environment as our country's Founding Fathers drafted the Constitution; but I, on the other hand, much prefer to get my state-of-the-art education in a state-of-the-art setting.

That is not to say that all of Hamilton's classrooms are old. In fact, this blight only exists in a handful of locations. Namely, the classrooms in Root Hall, Benedict Hall and Couper Hall need some attention. These buildings have not been truly renovated since what would appear to be before the majority of Hamilton students were born. While the buildings' exteriors exude exactly what I would expect and desire from a small liberal arts college, their interior designs remain far from ideal.

True, the buildings are equipped with the appropriate presentation tools, such as projectors and speakers. However, these updates appear out of place next to the many outdated features of the buildings. One example of a fixable issue in the buildings is the presence of seemingly ancient blackboards. It seems clear that the College recognizes these areas of ugliness, considering admissions tour guides steer clear of them. In reality, there should exist no area of the campus (other than perhaps garbage recepticals) that stand as embarassments.

The departments that these buildings house are equally important to the Hamilton community as any of the departments housed in state-of-the art facilities like Kirner-Johnson and the Science Center. Perhaps preservation of our existing facilities should take some precedence over the equally important initiatives to create new ones.

Sincerely,
Keith MacArtney '13



by James Grebey '12
Staff Cartoonist

Alternative Spring Break: A worthwhile week away

by Rachel Lieb '13
Opinion Editor

This year more than 100 Hamilton students devoted their spring break to helping others around the country by participating in Alternative Spring Break (ASB). The program began in 1993 when 20 students traveled to Miami to aid in Hurricane Andrew relief. Ever since, the program has continued to expand; this year 10 trips were offered in locations throughout the south, as well as one relatively local trip to Syracuse.

When I signed up for ASB, I thought it would be a good way to spend my spring break. Between class, schoolwork, a job and other extra curricular activities, I rarely have time to sleep, let alone participate in community service projects. Spending one week of my spring break helping others did not seem like much of a sacrifice. I expected to meet some new people, learn a little bit about manual labor and maybe have a little fun. The program greatly exceeded all of my expectations.

My trip to Natchez not only allowed me to meet new people and learn about construction, but I was able to fully appreciate Southern culture and hospitality. At our Habitat for Humanity site, we spent our days putting up sheet rock and spackling. At night we toured the town, met the people of Natchez and even spent an evening on the Louisiana side of the Mississippi River, loudly singing any pop song we could think of. It is truly incredible how ten virtual strangers could become so close so quickly. I suppose 23 hours in a jitney (each way) could do that to anyone.

Tiffany Andrade '13 said, "Alternative Spring Break in Natchez was an experience that I would probably not find anywhere else. Being introduced to Southern hospitality by the townspeople, who were also willing to inform us about the history and traditions of Natchez, was comforting. But the most rewarding part of the trip for me was putting up all of the sheet rock and seeing the house transform into a home."

PHOTO BY KIERAN WILSON '14

ASB roofs a house for Habitat for Humanity in North Carolina.

PHOTO BY JACOB KLEINROCK '11

ASB group outside of a Habitat for Humanity house in Mississippi.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KNIPP '13

Leonard Teng '12 works on a nature trail in Tennessee.

For students on a budget, ASB is an ideal way to spend a spring break. A mere $150 deposit (even less for those who went to Syracuse) guaranteed food, lodging and gas for the entire trip. There are even financial aid options for those students who cannot afford the deposit. The Hamilton administration and the COOP do everything in their power to accommodate students.

ASB enables students to perform community service, as well as gain a cultural experience. In our Hamilton bubble it is simple to forget that the United States is such a large country with a very diverse population. It is easy to cling to preconceived notions of the South rather than actually travel there and experience what life is really like.

Between driving to the community service site from Hamilton to exploring the area during free time, students have an opportunity to see a part of the country that they may not have encountered before.

Alex Orlov '13 said, "I didn't know quite what to expect when I signed up for ASB. [Looking back,] I would definitely recommend ASB to anyone looking to do something productive with our (relatively) long spring break!"

All Hamilton students should consider participating in ASB at some point during their time on the Hill. While doing community service is incredibly satisfying and a productive way to spend spring break, the overall experience of ASB is unmatched. It allows students to branch out of their usual friend groups and activities and do something completely different.

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Professor Profile: Madeleine Lopez

Kids, Crime TV, and the Cultural Education Center

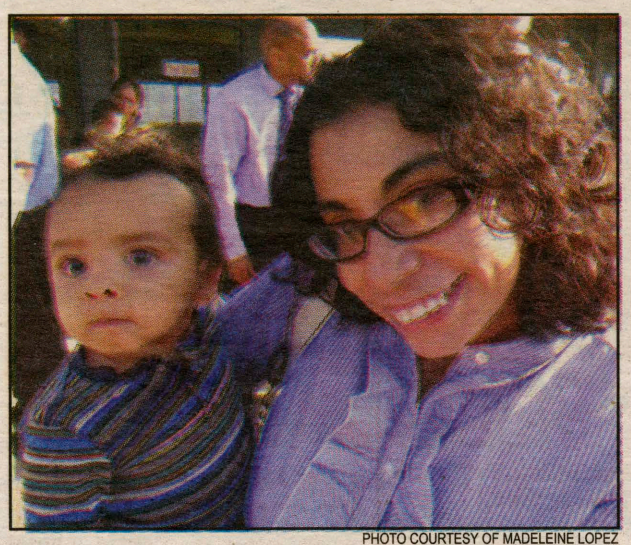


PHOTO COURTESY OF MADELEINE LOPEZ

by Emily Gerston '11
Features Editor

This is part of a series on the staff and employees of Hamilton College. The series is an attempt to foster communication between faculty, staff, employees and students to create a more cohesive Hamilton community. Madeleine Lopez is Consulting Director of the Cultural Education Center and Lecturer in education.

What brought you to Hamilton?

I left New York City to come with my husband, Chad Williams, associate professor in the History Department. Family is paramount to me, so I wanted all of us to be together.

How did you get to where you are today?

I took the "road less traveled," literally, and ended up in Clinton, New York.

What is your specialty in your field?

Latino history and history of education.

What are your research interests?

I have two big ones: documenting the Puerto Rican experience in the United States and creating a culturally relevant curriculum for students.

What are your passions outside of academics?

My children, Gabriel and Michael.

What is your favorite Hamilton College tradition?

Class and Charter Day.

If you could go back in time to when you were in college and give yourself one piece of advice, what would it be?

True love will find you. You don't have to settle.

What's currently in your car CD player? (or, if that's not applicable, if someone were to open your mp3 player to "last played," what would it be?)

MANA, *Te Solte la Rienda*; Cee-Lo Green, *Forget You*; U2, *One Love*.

What are you currently reading?

Chicano!: the History of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement by Arturo Rosales and David Rogers and *110 Livingston Street: Politics and Bureaucracy in the New York City School System* by David Rogers.

Commons, McEwen or Diner?

McEwen.

If you could have any other profession in the world, what would it be and why?

Writer for a TV detective drama series, ideally Law & Order. Watching Law & Order is an enjoyable pastime, so I imagine that it would be an easy job.

In Her Own Words: Aminata Barkham

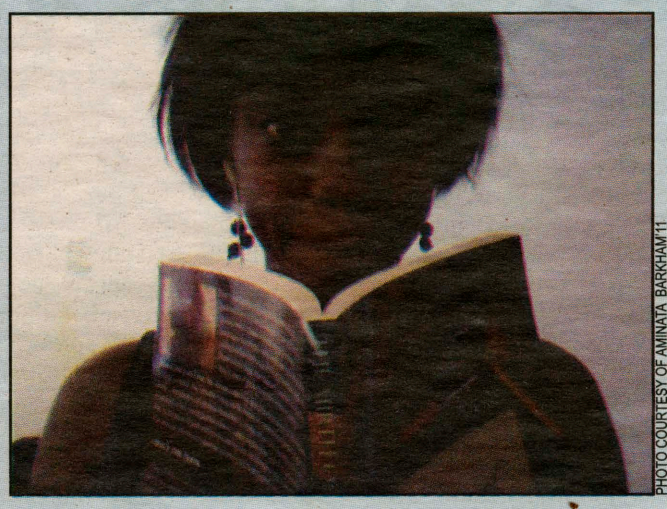


PHOTO COURTESY OF AMINATA BARKHAM'11

by Sarah Destin '14
Features Writer

Every student at Hamilton graduates with a college education, but not everyone manages to write a book about it. Aminata Barkham '11 used her experiences at Hamilton as the basis for her first novel, *The Mirth of College*, which was published on March 4.

The Mirth of College is Barkham's satirical novel about the present-day college experience. While Barkham cautioned that her novel is exaggerated, the fictional setting of Hegel College is based off of Barkham's experience at Hamilton.

"Hamilton is the environment I spent my time in when I was writing it. You'll notice, for example, that at Hegel, the weather is unbearable during the winter," said Barkham.

Before attending Hamilton, Barkham lived in Dakar, Senegal. Barkham decided to apply to Hamilton at the suggestion of her guidance counselor, since her counselor knew about Barkham's passion for writing and felt that Hamilton's excellent writing program would be a good fit for Barkham.

"Writing is my passion. I've always admired the power of books on a person, on society and possibly on the world as a whole. Writing is an activity I enjoy and do essentially for my own pleasure. Then eventually, there's the advantage of being published which I find to be a pretty good motivator to keep writing," sid Barkham.

Barkham hopes that *The Mirth of College* will appeal to college students, alumni and high school students applying to college. Barkham focuses the plot of her novel around an English teacher's discovery of a scandal on campus.

"A young English professor assigns an interesting exercise for her students in the hopes of becoming a cool teacher by allowing them to expose their fondest memories of or best stories about Hegel College. This initiative takes a turn for the worse when she ends up involved in a scandal she cannot get out of," said Barkham.

After graduation, Barkham is hoping to continue to exploring her creative side. Barkham said, "I will hopefully live in New York City and pursue my career as a writer. I am also looking for a job that is related to my major world politics or to the publishing industry."

The Author's Own Favorite Books

The Stranger, Albert Camus
"It's a book that shows that society will be out to destroy you if your principles do not correspond to the 'norm.'"

The Book of Love, Rumi
"It's a collection of poems about pure, unconditional love for humanity and God; it's an absolute gem; the reason I really like this book is how you can read the author centuries later and still feel his passion and devotion."

The Rules of Attraction, Bret Easton Ellis
"Picture wealthy, carefree, insufferable college students doing whatever they want, yet somehow there's something tragic about our antiheroes. In my defense, I wrote my novel way before I read this one and this is perhaps why I love it even more. I'm also a shameless Bret Easton Ellis fan."

Notebook of a Return to the Native Land, Aimé Césaire
"It's a collection of surrealist poems about the colonized condition in the Caribbean."

American Psycho, Bret Easton Ellis
"A brilliant novel that exposes the risks of too much materialism, and it strikes me how much the author succeeds to make most of the readers relate to the main character who is a serial killer. It made me realize, after finishing the book, that there are two options: either there's a little bit of Patrick Bateman in you or a little bit of Evelyn, and I don't know which is sadder."

Logic Puzzle: Admissions Efficiency

by Russell Marcus
Professor of Philosophy

The Puzzle

The Hamilton College Admissions Office will have three people working on weekends over the summer. One is a receptionist who also provides information sessions. The other two workers give interviews and tours. Each applicant coming to the Admissions Office will have an information session, a tour and an interview. Tours and interviews last 30 minutes. Information sessions last 12 minutes. All other interactions between the receptionist and the applicants last three minutes each.

1. The order of tour, interview and information session does not matter.
2. The receptionist can do four kinds of things, all with only one applicant at a time:
   - Prepare an applicant for an interview or tour
   - Receive an applicant from an interview or tour
   - Transition an applicant between an interview and a tour, in either order; transitioning combines preparing and receiving into one three-minute session
   - Give an information session to an applicant
3. Interviewers/tour guides also work with only one applicant at a time.
4. Every tour and every interview must be immediately preceded and immediately followed by three minutes with the receptionist.
5. Applicants and workers may have times with no activity scheduled.

Questions

1. What is the most efficient way to move three applicants through the process?

Hint: I have a solution which takes under two and a half hours.
2. If you were allowed to split one interview into two 15 minute segments, could you reduce the time? (Each segment would require meetings with the receptionist before and after.)

Rules

Solutions to Puzzle #1011.6: Admissions Efficiency, with precise details of both schedules, may be sent to puzzle@hamilton.edu or, via campus mail, to Russell Marcus, Philosophy Department.

The fastest solution to meet the given constraints will win the context. In the case of ties, a winner will be chosen at random.

Make sure to include your contact information with your solution. Anyone may play the puzzle, but only current Hamilton College students may win prizes.

Prizes

Prize winners receive a t-shirt or mug from Lulasail, home of the best philosophy t-shirts on the web.

The Deadline for Puzzle #1011.6: Admissions Efficiency is Monday, April 4, at 4 p.m. All entries must be received by that time.

Visit our website: www.thatmarcusfamily.org/philosophy/HCPuzzles

Decisions, decisions: First-year Sam Reider's website helps simplify college choices

by Olivia B. Waxman '11
Senior Staff Writer

With hundreds of colleges and universities to choose from, no wonder choosing a school can seem like an impossible task. That is why Hamilton first-year Sam Reider created the website CollegePick (http://www.collegepick.us), which helps high school seniors decide where to go to college.

"There are people I know who will put down two deposits just because they can't make up their mind," Reider said.

On CollegePick, which *The New York Times* spotlighted soon after it launched on March 4, indecisive high school seniors can organize their college list by the factors that mean the most to them and score them on a scale of 1 to 5—1 being the least important and 5 being the most important.

The site suggests factors such as academics, housing, cost, food, location, likelihood of acceptance and future value, which Reider describes as the amount of money the student is likely to make after graduation. Users can also toss their own factors into the mix—like their campus visit experience. The site then generates a ranking of colleges based on user preferences that looks like a virtual spreadsheet.

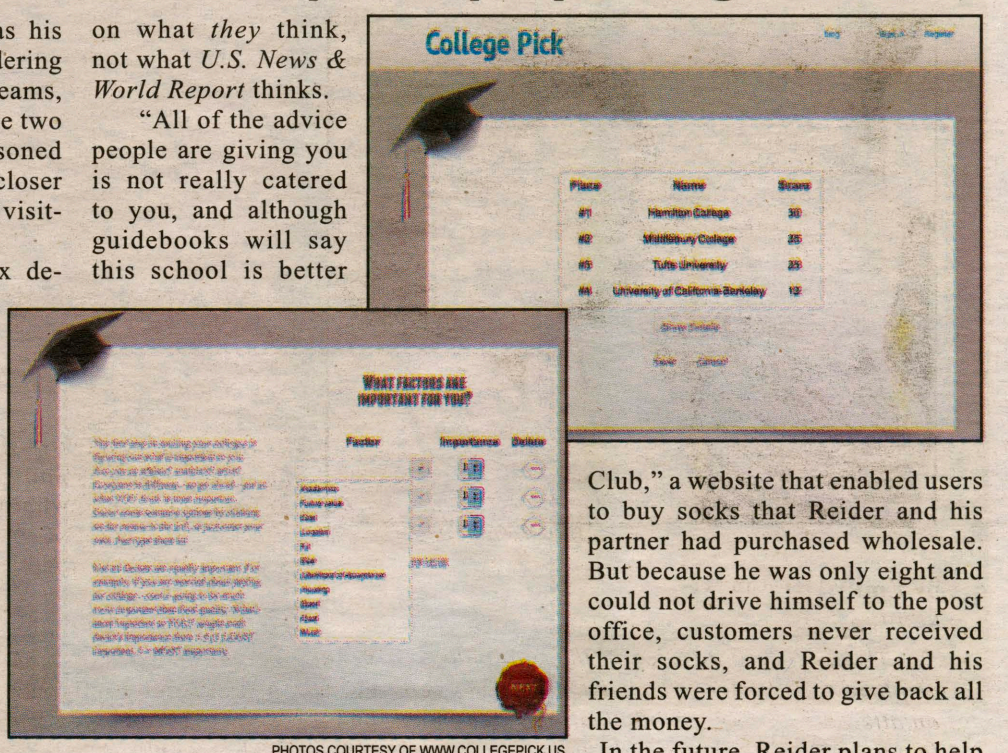
When Reider was applying to colleges, he plotted his choices on a whiteboard, rating academics as his first priority while also considering factors like future value, track teams, cost and location. "I wanted to be two hours away from home," reasoned Reider, "but I didn't want to be closer because then my mom would be visiting all the time."

His decision-making matrix determined that Middlebury and Hamilton were tied for best match, boasting 168 points, with Hobart and William Smith coming in a close second with 166 points.

But when Reider did not get an Early Decision I acceptance to his dream school Middlebury, he put more weight on the likelihood of acceptance factor and applied Early Decision II to Hamilton, hoping he would have better luck. And he did. Now, the future computer science major and member of the track and soccer teams says he has no regrets about his decision.

In response to user requests that the site be more informative, Reider has teamed up with the guidebook company College Prowler to enable applicants to read reviews of colleges by current students so that they can rank the schools more easily. This way, users can choose a college based on what *they* think, not what *U.S. News & World Report* thinks.

"All of the advice people are giving you is not really catered to you, and although guidebooks will say this school is better than [another] school, community college might be best for you if cost is a huge factor," Reider said. "[The problem is] kids are not thinking based on factors, they're thinking about what is the highest-rated school."

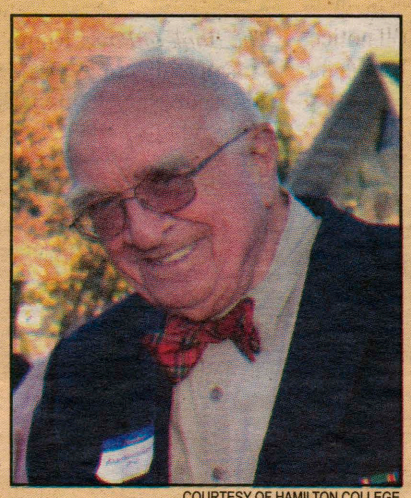


PHOTOS COURTESY OF WWW.COLLEGEPICK.US

CollegePick is a far cry from the first site the first-year programmer launched in the third grade. He and his best friend created "Sock of the Month Club," a website that enabled users to buy socks that Reider and his partner had purchased wholesale. But because he was only eight and could not drive himself to the post office, customers never received their socks, and Reider and his friends were forced to give back all the money.

In the future, Reider plans to help people make more life choices based on the decision-making matrix and says that the beauty of this method is that it can be applied to anything—graduate schools, job searches and apartment-hunting, to name just a few possibilities. With nearly 20,000 page views to date and users who hail from places as far away as Turkey and China, CollegePick is just the beginning.

Trustee's Corner: Fran Musselman '50


COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

by Nick Stagliano '11
Senior Staff Writer

Fran Musselman's father, John Musselman '17, was a student at Hamilton long before the days of financial aid, yet he benefited from the generosity of those who came before him just as many of today's Hamilton students do: "Five guys in Utica," Musselman recalled, "each loaned [my father], for which he signed notes, $50 a year. Tuition was $250. When my dad graduated, one of the five tore up the notes. My father never forgot it. And I never forgot it."

When Musselman graduated from high school in June 1942 in Watertown, New York, he was 16 years old, and had to wait until he was 17 to go into the Navy. All during the war, a nurse at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester wrote to him—every single day.

"I was in the Pacific," Musselman said, "so the mail came every three months, and I'd get 100 letters. At the end of the war, she couldn't come to my first fraternity [Lambda Chi Alpha] house party, so she sent her roommate, who was also a nurse. I married the roommate."

"My wife worked at St. Luke's Hospital in Utica. During summer recess, I needed a job and ended up going door-to-door, when it didn't rain, passing out Procter & Gamble's amazing new product, Tide, in New Hartford and Utica for 75 cents an hour. It rained three days the first week, and I made only $12. I was a failure. I later asked A.G. Lafley [Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Hamilton and former Chairman, President and CEO of Procter & Gamble], 'Do you think you could've gotten where you've gotten at P&G without me paving the way?'"

With his $12 earnings from Procter & Gamble, Musselman bought a hammer and saw at Sears-Roebuck and took a job as a non-union carpenter at a housing project in New Hartford. "One day, the concrete truck arrived before we had the forms in place for the foundation, but the driver dumped the concrete on the ground anyway. By the time we got the forms for the footings set, the concrete was nearly dry. During the course of that day I had worked overtime, been stung by a bee and smashed my finger with a hammer. The foreman came by before I left and said, 'Things are slow and I'm going to have to lay you off.' I was a failure for a second time," Musselman said.

While still at Hamilton and living in the barracks, the Musselmans had twin daughters, one of whom, Carol Musselman Kuntz, would go on to graduate from Kirkland College in 1975.

After graduating from Hamilton, Musselman went on to Columbia University, where he earned his law degree in 1953. He joined the firm of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, becoming a partner in 1960 and later serving as the firm's managing partner for 14 years.

In 1966, Musselman was the motivating force behind Milbank Tweed becoming the first law firm in the world to use a computer. "I learned to program in COBOL, Fortran and Basic, not because I was going to be doing the programming, but because I wanted to make sure the guy I hired to do it knew what he was doing," Musselman said.

One of Musselman's life lessons, however, has always been "Never let the technology take over." He added, "When I started out, I made it very clear that we were going to program the computers and not the lawyers."

In the early 1970s, Musselman, his wife and four children and his father and stepmother were vacationing on Cape Cod when, "One day, in Falmouth, I was in the Bradley's store and my father said, 'Oh, there's John Chandler [Hamilton's 15th president].' I said 'Leave him alone—he's on vacation.' The next thing I knew, my father had John Chandler to our house for dinner."

Musselman continued, "Following that dinner, Chandler asked me if I wanted to go on the board of Kirkland, which had just graduated its first class." At the time, Hamilton had five nominees to the 25-person Kirkland board. After a couple of years, Musselman was elected Chairman of the Kirkland board.

"When I first went on the board, I wanted to find out what was going on at Kirkland. I could have asked the president or the faculty, but I decided that the best way to find out what was going on was to talk to the students. But how do you talk to students as a new trustee in an unstructured, nonthreatening way? I decided that, whenever I had a few minutes, I would pick up hitchhikers at the top of College Hill and drive them into town."

One day, Musselman picked up a Kirkland student who was heading to Utica, and he agreed to drive her there. When he asked where she needed to go, she told him to the post office—after they had already passed post offices in Clinton and New Hartford. Musselman was curious as to why she had to go to the Utica post office, and she said, "I'm going to talk to the FBI to tell them to stop hassling my father."

The Kirkland student had been busted at a peace march, and the FBI was hassling her father, who worked for General Electric. "This was extremely typical of these young women at Kirkland," Musselman said. "They were fine women—all of them. And I think that, to a large extent, some of that spirit is still at Hamilton."

Musselman served on the Kirkland board until the merger with Hamilton in 1978, when he was elected a Life Trustee of Hamilton.

"It wasn't until I got involved with women's education that I got to understand women. But when I told my wife that, and she said 'You still don't understand them.'"

Throughout the years, Musselman, who still goes to his Milbank Tweed office every day, has only ever lived and worked within a few blocks in Manhattan: "I first went to 120 Broadway when I was 17 years old to the Navy recruiting station. Ten years later, I went to work one block away, at 15 Broad Street. In 1960, Milbank Tweed moved to One Chase Plaza, which was diagonally across the street from 120 Broadway. And my apartment is across the street from One Chase Plaza, on Liberty Street. All those years, I didn't get very far," Musselman said.

Dancers "fly six directions" but show never falls

PHOTOS BY SUMAN SARKER '11

From top left, clockwise: Axi Walker '13 and Tiago Correia '12; Elena Wood '11; Olivier Wecxsteen and Selby McRae '11; Linda Lam '11 in the Dance Concert.

by Arianne Bergman '13
Arts & Entertainment Contributor

The dance "Tobi Roppo (1986)," whose name was inspired by a Kabuki term meaning "flying in six directions," was the opening piece of the Spring Dance Concert, held on March 4 and 5.

"Flying in six directions" signified the readiness of the performers to move in any direction. The piece was broken into four poetically titled parts: "first you see a flash," "then you feel the heat," "and then there is nothing," and finally "rebirth." Senior Linda Lam's solo for "and then there is nothing" was both peaceful and stirring; every dancer gave a committed performance to this highly conceptual piece.

Another piece, "The Slave Trader's Daughter," was dark and haunting. From the opening moment—two girls sitting, illuminated by their desk lamps, with a man between them whipping at the ground—to the end—a freeze just as one of the women is about to stab one of the men—the piece kept the audience on their toes. Despite not being a conventional dance piece, it still managed to communicate feelings of fear and tension. The reversal in the final moment, in which a woman fights back and gains power over her captor, was especially compelling.

Next, Kunter Kula '11 and Samantha Rabin '11 performed a piece entitled "No One's Profit." Using the full stage, the two chased each other to music by the Talking Heads. Occasionally, they would stop to pull a crumpled bill from their jean pockets and drop it to the floor. They also fought, pulling each other down. Although much of the dance was not direct partner work, it felt consistently like a partner dance because of the tension the dancers created in how they worked around each other on the stage.

After intermission, the students performed a section from "Coppelia," a well-known comic ballet that tells the story of the inventor Dr. Coppelius and the life-size dancing doll he creates. Frantz, danced by guest choreographer Olivier Wecxsteen, is the village swain who forgets his love Swanilda, danced by Selby McRae '11, and falls in love with the doll. In revenge, Swanilda sneaks into the inventor's studio with her friends and pretends to be the doll, fooling both Frantz and the inventor when she "comes to life" and dances on her own.

The performers imbued the comic ballet with an admirable spirit, sending the audience into fits of laughter at their groundless fear of the doll. Creeping together in a line, one foot out at a time and running away with their legs shaking, the dancers fully assimilated into their roles and greatly amused the packed Wellin Hall. McRae gave a startlingly talented performance when pretending to come to life as the doll. The entire performance was light, fun and danced well. Wecxsteen choreographed the piece based on the original choreography.

Noted writers add worldly charm to poetry

by Taylor Coe '13
Arts & Entertainment Editor

On Saturday, April 2, in conjunction with a New Orleans-style brunch in Opus 1, poet Nicole Cooley will be reading out of her collection *Breach*, which deal with the reality of post-Katrina New Orleans.

Only a year after the hurricane, New Orleans native Nicole Cooley walked past the Big Easy's iconic Camellia Grill—still closed in the aftermath of the hurricane—and noticed the hundreds of Post-It notes covering the building. Someone had left a bucket of Post-It notes and a marker with the message, "Write a Love Note to Camellia Grill." As a noted poet, novelist and Professor of English and Creative Writing at Queens College-City University of New York, Cooley wrote down all the notes that people had left and incorporated them into a poem. This and similarly inspired poems make up Cooley's collection.

Among the honors that Cooley has received are a Walt Whitman Award, a Discovery/*The Nation* Award, and a National Endowment for the Arts Grant. In addition to her four works of poetry (*Milk Dress*, her fourth collection, is due out in April), Cooley has also published a novel, *Judy Garland, Ginger Love*.

> **"Naomi Shihab Nye breathes poetry like the rest of us breathe air." — *The Grand Rapids Press***

Separately from Cooley, poet Naomi Shihab Nye will also be visiting Hamilton College on April 5 at 8 p.m. for a reading of her work. Nye has spent her life traveling the world and educating students of all ages in writing workshops; the traveling, in turn, has informed the broad, human strokes of her poetry. Fellow poet William Stafford has noted, "Nye is a champion of the literature of encouragement and heart" and that "reading her work enhances life." *The Grand Rapids Press* offers similar praise, asserting, "Naomi Shihab Nye breathes poetry like the rest of us breathe air. When she exhales, the world becomes different. Better."

NEWS.GONZAGA.EDU

Naomi Shihab Nye will give a reading from her work on April 5 at 8 p.m. in the Chapel.

Indie groups to perform in Sadove

by Hannah Grace O'Connell '14
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Free Energy, Darwin Deez and Land of Pines are three current groups with radically different sounds. All are going to be showcased this weekend in a concert sponsored by Independent Music Fund.

Free Energy is a group from Philadelphia (although its members originally hail from Michigan) known for its 1970s classic rock sound, and they cite Fleetwood Mac, Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers and Cheap Trick as influences. The band has been together since 2007 and has soared to prominence in the past year with the release of their debut album, *Stuck on Nothing*. Free Energy received praise in reviews from both *Spin* and *Rolling Stone* magazines, and *Rolling Stone* named Free Energy one of the best new bands of the year. They have most recently been the opening band for Weezer.

With a very different sound from Free Energy, the indie-pop group Darwin Deez features guitar-heavy tunes. Interestingly, the group uses outer space as a frequent subject matter, and many songs reference the stars or planets. This approach led to success with their first single. Led by Darwin Deez (Darwin Smith), the New York City-based group has been acclaimed since their single "Constellations" was released in the U.K. in 2009, finding success with British fans of indie music in the U.K. Indie charts. Their album, *Darwin Deez*, was released in February of last year. Also in 2010, the group was featured on the cover of popular British music magazine NME. Darwin Deez is known for having interesting live shows, sometimes featuring choreographed dances by members of the band. The group is the brainchild of its lead man Darwin Smith.

Rounding out the talent-packed night is Land of Pines, another indie-pop group based in Seattle. The band has been together since their days as college students and before, although they've put college on hold to focus on their music. The members of the group have been together since high school, but it was only after they left for various colleges that the group realized they needed to keep making music together. The band's music was described by a reviewer for the *Sound on the Sound* music review source as "incredibly promising local pop that flits between driving rock and sweet folk casually and with confidence," and is filled with catchy melodies and an interesting mix of a male and female vocal duo.

The concert takes place on Saturday, April 2 at 8 p.m. in Sadove basement. The event is free.

REVILER.ORG

The Philadelphia-based classic rock band Free Energy is reputed to have creative and high energy live shows, replicating their musical influences from 1970s hard rock, such as Journey, Cars and Cheap Trick.

WHCL Sunken Treasure:

Tuesday, 12-1 a.m.

Marty Cain '13

I play a lot of folk music on my show. I also play punk, alt-country, and indie rock. But I consider it a folk show — as the wise Ani DiFranco once quipped, "Folk is an attitude, it's an awareness of one's heritage and it's a community." Whether they're narrative or not, I like songs that tell stories and explore the depths of human experiences and emotions. I also really like Wilco.

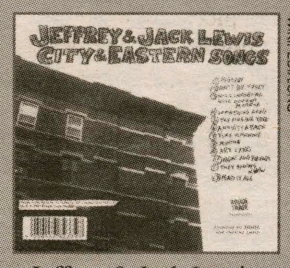
Record Picks from Marty:

WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Wilco -
Yankee Hotel Foxtrot

WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Gillian Welch -
Soul Journey



WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Jeffrey & Jack Lewis -
City & Eastern Songs

WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Minor Threat -
First Two 7"s on a 12"

Are you a WHCL DJ?
Want your show featured in the WHCL column?

If you answered yes to either question, please e-mail tcoe or hoconnel with a show description and your favorite albums.

A&E weekly schedule

Hamilton College Choir

Home Concert in Wellin Hall
Friday, April 1 at 8 p.m.

Naomi Shihab Nye:

Reading in the Chapel
April 5 at 8 p.m.

IMF Concert:

Saturday, April 2 at 8 p.m.
Sadove Basement

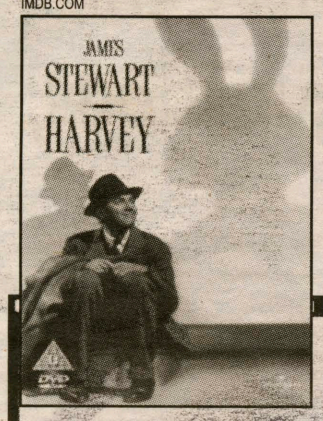
Darwin Deez
Free Energy
Land of Pines

Hamilton Alumni Comedy Show

sponsored by CAB
Saturday, April 2, 8:30 p.m., in the Barn

Late Movie:
Harvey
10 p.m.

IMDB.COM



KJ Aud:
April 1
April 2
April 3

Early Movie:
House Party
7 p.m.

SK Films

Oral research engage library electronic Levitt Languages Dance intensively curriculum poster ways Opportunity Writing prepare articles liberal model around many discuss McEwen Art study maps History lectures citizenship

a Librarian @Levitt

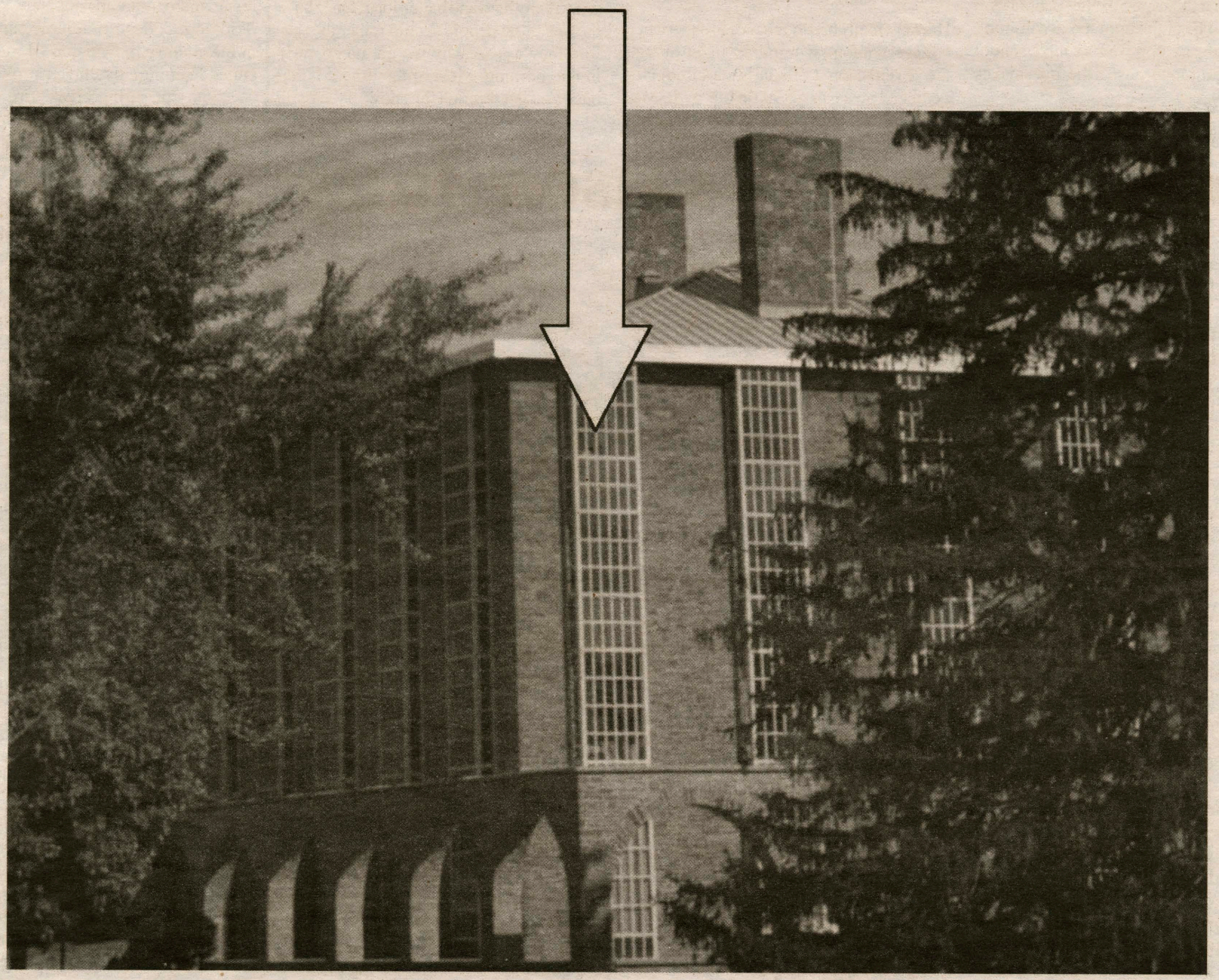
Reference Librarians are available in the Levitt Center to work with you on your research, answer questions, and help you use library resources.

Monday-Wednesday 3-5pm

The Career Center has had an extreme makeover!
As of March 28th, we are located on the
3rd floor of Bristol (#53 on the campus map)

Come visit us in our our new location,
or call x4346 to set an appointment.

Us!



Rosenbaum reveals to readers

from ***Rosenbaum****, page 1*

I wasn't really good at anything else (not much hand eye coordination), and my sister really wanted to swim, so I figured I would give it a try too. I'm still involved with swimming because, 11 years later, I still love it.

Who is your biggest role model?

I know it sounds really corny, but my sister is still my biggest role model. She swam for Hamilton as well (graduated in 2010), and works harder than anyone I have ever met. She's incredible.

What is your favorite and least favorite memory of this season?

I will never forget the time trial 200 medley relay that we did at NESCACs on Sunday night. I have never felt that kind of energy before, especially with the entire pool deck cheering for us. That will be with me forever. And there were lots of hilarious moments along the way—biking to and from swim practice on our training trip in Key West (about 18 miles a day on top of the swimming we did). The only really negative thing that I can pinpoint comes from the biking; I got distracted and swerved my bike into a wall … it left a pretty gnarly scar.

What aspect of swimming do you find most difficult?

I'm not going to lie—getting up at 5:30 or 6 in the morning to go to practice does get pretty tiresome, but it makes it a lot easier knowing that there are 50 other people who are going to be at the pool too. Swimming with a team, as opposed to high school where I swam alone most of the time, makes a huge difference.

FUN FACTS

Name: Maggie Rosenbaum '14
Birthday: November 1, 1991
Hometown: Alfred, Massachusetts
Pump-up songs: Top Secret Information
Sport for fun: Yoga
Place to catch her: Lingering at Commons or studying in the Library
Hamilton Bucket List: Walk across the map on Martin's Way!

Why did you chose Hamilton (both academically and athletically)?

Originally, I didn't want to come to Hamilton. I had been coming here to watch my sister swim for four years and didn't want to follow in her footsteps. I looked around at a lot of other schools—small, liberal arts, competitive swim programs, but no place felt like Hamilton. I couldn't be any place else. I love the professors, the swim team and even Commons.

How would you describe yourself compared to the typical Hamilton student?

I'd like to think I am a typical Hamilton student! All joking aside though, I think we're all really focused and committed to what we love to do.

What do you enjoy doing in your free time on campus besides swimming?

I haven't really had the chance to experience college without swimming. Even though the season cannot officially start until November 1, we can get in on our own. Megan Gibbons (she swam in the relays and the 50 and 100 freestyle at nationals) and I started swimming together in September to get ready for the season and since then it has been pretty nonstop, but I've loved every minute of it.

What was your mindset and your expectations going into this season?

I didn't really have any expectations. I really just wanted to see what college swimming was like, and I got to hang out with an amazing group of people. I am really happy with the way things turned out.

What were you most nervous about before your swims?

At Nationals I was the most nervous about disqualifying a relay team. But I really try not to think about the nerves when I'm behind the blocks. I just try to remember that I've put the work in and now I just have to trust.

What do you think was most important factor in helping you become a national champion?

The *team*! And all of our amazing coaches and trainers on campus, and my family. I've been training alone for so long and it is so incredible to have this huge support system behind you all the time. I owe them all so much.

What do you think every Hamilton student should know about the sport of swimming?

I think swimming is a pretty underrated sport, which is why I love it so much. We work really hard and have a lot of fun. That's the one thing people should remember before they ask us why we get up so early in the morning. Most of the time it is fun once you get through the snow to the pool.

Softball hits early season slump

by Hannah Grace O'Connell '14
Arts & Entertainment Editor

While their season has only just begun, the Hamilton softball team stands at 1-9, a record which they hope to improve when conference games begin.

Particularly promising is the roster of first-year students who have been added to the team this year: Chelsea Merritt, Summer Bottini, Ashley Perritt, Jenn Rougeux and Sam Miller.

The size of the first year class is indicative of the team's growth, which has shown a steady increase in recent years. This season the softball team boasts 16 players, the most it has had in a long time.

The large team is being held together and guided by the four members of the senior class, Amanda Nardi, Mandy Hyne, Liz Reid and Leigh Sherrow.

The team traveled to Cape Coral, Florida over spring break, playing several non-conference games. Their early games in Florida showed great promise, with Hamilton beating Mass College of Liberal Arts 4-3 in their first game.

Despite holding their own in the next games, Hamilton lost 6-11 to Franklin and Marshall, 6-7 to SUNY Fredonia and 2-3 to Washington College, all on March 16.

Despite high hopes, Hamilton was shut out in a number of games against schools such as the University of Wisconsin-Oshkos, Edgewood College, St. Lawrence University and the University of New England.

In their game against Wooster College on March, Hamilton lost the game but managed to score a few times thanks to Merritt, Melissa Kaknis '13 and Lisa Faraci '13. The final scores for the two games were 3-1 and 6-2 respectively.

The Hamilton women are hoping to replicate their success from last year, where they finished the season third in the NESCAC conference with a 0.952 fielding percentage.

In addition to a poor record, the optimism of the team is clouded, however, by the harsh and unseasonal weather which has descended on the campus.

Trying to play schools facing the same cold conditions in New York State has posed a problem, and consequently games have been postponed.

Their doubleheader against Morrisville State College was scheduled for home on Tuesday, March 29, but had to be canceled. However, it was able to be rescheduled to Tuesday, April 12 at 3:30 p.m.

The Continental women were not so lucky when their March 27 home meet against Rochester Institute of Technology was cancelled. These games, also a doubleheader, were not able to be rescheduled.

The team travels next to Amherst College on April 2, and Utica College on April 5.

PHOTO BY ANDY RICHARDSON '10

Hamilton has been plagued by both bad play and poor weather.

Spring break success for Scott '14 and Hamilton golf

by Kendall Weir '12
Sports Writer

The Hamilton College men's golf team, led by a strong host of young guns, played with poise and placed second in two invitationals while on their annual spring break trip to Port St.Lucie, Florida.

"Our two weeks in Port St. Lucie were fantastic," remarked Knute Gailor '13. "We played great courses thanks to a number of generous alumni hosts, worked on our games, and got to know one another off the course while practicing trick shots on the par three course."

Coach Al Highducheck joins the team on the two week trip to Port St. Lucie every spring break; the players get to hit the links every day, and the trip culminated in two successful tournaments. In the Saints Invitational at Saints Golf Club, the Continentals finished second, ahead of Wesleyan and behind upstate New York rival Skidmore College. Skidmore, ranked 12th in the country in Division III men's golf, edged Hamilton by eleven strokes.

"The spring seems promising, everyone is playing pretty solid golf right now."
-Brandon De Graff '14

"On our spring break trip, we competed against Wesleyan and nationally ranked Skidmore. Greg . . . helped us pass Wesleyan, but Skidmore posted some good scores and we fell a few shots short," said Senior Captain Brad Roche '11.

Greg Scott '14– who carried the team during the fall season and received all-NESCAC recognition– led yet again and posted an even-par round at Saints Golf Club. He shot the low score for the day to medal for the invitational, followed by more Hamilton young guns. Brandon De Graff '14 placed sixth, and the team's newest member, Carter White '14, placed eighth.

"With the addition of transfer student Carter White, our team began to come together on and off the course. This spring seems promising, everyone is playing pretty solid golf right now," said De Graff.

A few days later, all seven Continentals on the trip were able to compete in the Sunshine Invitational, held at the PGA Village Ryder Course. Scott '14 impressed yet again, shooting a +2 round to tie for third place individually. White '14 and Knute Gailor '13 each fired 78. Julian Ophals '14, another young star on the roster, also broke 80. Gailor received NESCAC all-academic recognition in the fall.

"We were all playing pretty solid golf by the end of the second week and we are all looking forward to the start of our season up north," said Riley Jorgensen '11.

Unfortunately, the Continentals were forced to forego the second round of the Sunshine Invitational to travel back home. They will play in the spring invitational jointly hosted by Manhattanville and NYU the weekend of April 9-10.

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Ballplayers exemplify the grinder spirit

from ***Baseball****, page 16*

ace. Wulf, despite some arm problems, showed signs of being a potential stopper for the team in a complete-game victory.

Wulf doesn't think the staff's youth is an excuse. "At this point in the season, there's no point distinguishing between upperclassmen and lowerclassmen: every one of us needs to go out and do [our] job," he said. "Our pitching coach preaches for us to 'control the controllable.'"

Offense and defense are indeed beyond these hurlers' control. "Buicko, Justin Atwood '11, Wes Mayberry '11 and Prindle must produce for us, although the numbers haven't been there yet," said Byrnes.

Overall, the Continentals should be all right. They've struggled with personnel turnover and injuries, but by grinding they've established an identity. Furthermore, Byrnes believes that the transition from the warm to the cold will aid the pitching staff and even the playing field as the Continentals head into their important in-conference matchups.

"We think really think teams are going to be afraid to play us," said.

It's true. No matter how much talent an opponent has in its lineup, nobody, not even NESCAC powerhouses like Amherst and Wesleyan, feels comfortable playing a team with a high-intensity attitude. Combined with the sense of being an underdog, Hamilton can do great things this season.

Houk credits teammates for his success

from ***Hockey****, page 16*

noteworthy considering that Houk "only" scored four goals last season paired with 15 assists. Houk himself said that he was informed of his nomination to the All-American team by follow defenseman Ryan Guerin '11.

The communication major further revealed that "I was shocked by the selection because of the number of great players throughout the country. There are so many great players on our team and in the Division III as a whole. I was just honored to be a part of such a great group of hockey players."

His great deal of humility and team play was also evident in his personal explanation for why he received such high honors. He said he profited from Coaches Norm Bazin and Graham Johnson giving him extended playing time throughout the season and as well as a great deal of support from his teammates who were "making my job as a defenseman as easy as possible …[and made it] easy to capitalize on the chances they gave me every game."

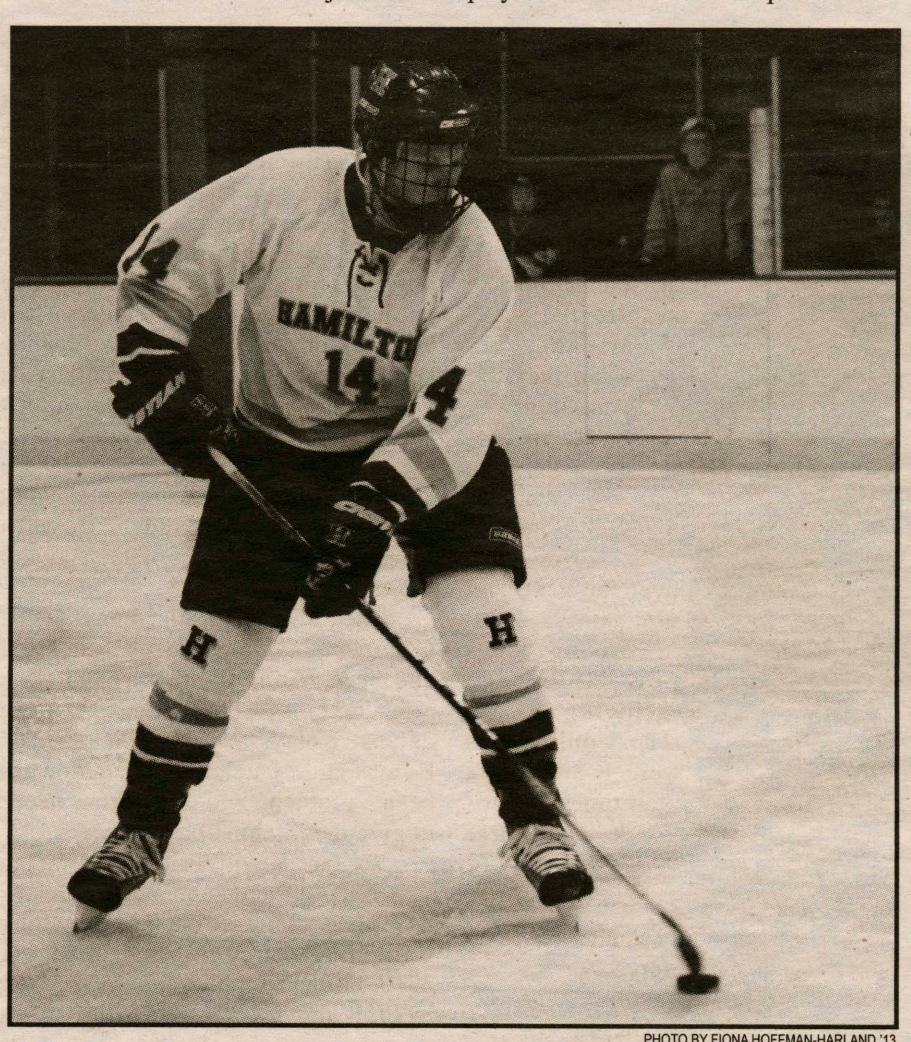


PHOTO BY FIONA HOFFMAN-HARLAND '13

Joe Houk '13 led the team in scoring despite being a defenseman.

In fact, Houk even practiced some self-criticism regarding his accolades: "I enjoy the offensive part of the game a lot, probably too much for a defenseman." The Continentals sure benefitted from this unconventional enthusiasm.

Houk specifically credited players like Joe Buicko '11, Andrew Scarpino '12, Andrew White '13, and the previously mentioned first-year forwards DiMare and Anderson for his success this year and continued overall improvement. But Houk wouldn't be a true student athlete when he wouldn't work on further developing his game.

"I enjoy the offensive part of the game a lot, probably too much for a defenseman."

"I'll continue to better my defensive side of the game," he said. "And I'll strive to shut down the opposing team's top players. Until next year, I'll be working hard with my teammates in the gym and through summer workouts."

His coaches will welcome this work effort in their own quest for building upon a strong NESCAC season in which the Continentals advanced to the NESCAC quarterfinals.

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
March 31, 2011

Burchenal, Leanos lead Continentals attack: Men's lacrosse undefeated over spring break

by Christie Crawford '13
Sports Contributor

Men's lacrosse looks like the team to watch this season as they kick off the spring undefeated. They have won all of their first five games, including three away games.

The team finished strong last season with a 10-4 record. It has not reached the Liberty League tournament since 2006, but by the way that they blew out of the starting gates this spring shows that the men are determined to snag a spot in the tournament.

The men did well away last year, winning seven games, but right now they are looking unstoppable. Junior attack Henry Burchenal has led the way to victory for the Continentals, scoring the majority of the team's goals. His nine goals and two assists in away victories against Greensboro College and Drew earned him the award for Co-Offensive Performer of the Week. Burchenal also scored another three goals to lead the men's team to a 14-5 win against rival Utica College.

Every goal has to start somewhere; Captain Jon Leanos '13 leads the team in assists.

Leanos contributed a career-high five assists against Utica, including all three of Burchenal's goals. However, the team's perfect record is by no means a two-man effort. Luke Sadoff '14, Chris Whelan '13 and several other players also had goals and assists against Utica.

In their most recent game against Potsdam on Mar. 26, Leanos led the Continentals to yet another 11-3 victory, scoring three goals and three assists. Leanos was also awarded Co-Offensive Player of the week for his game-changing goals and assists so far this season.

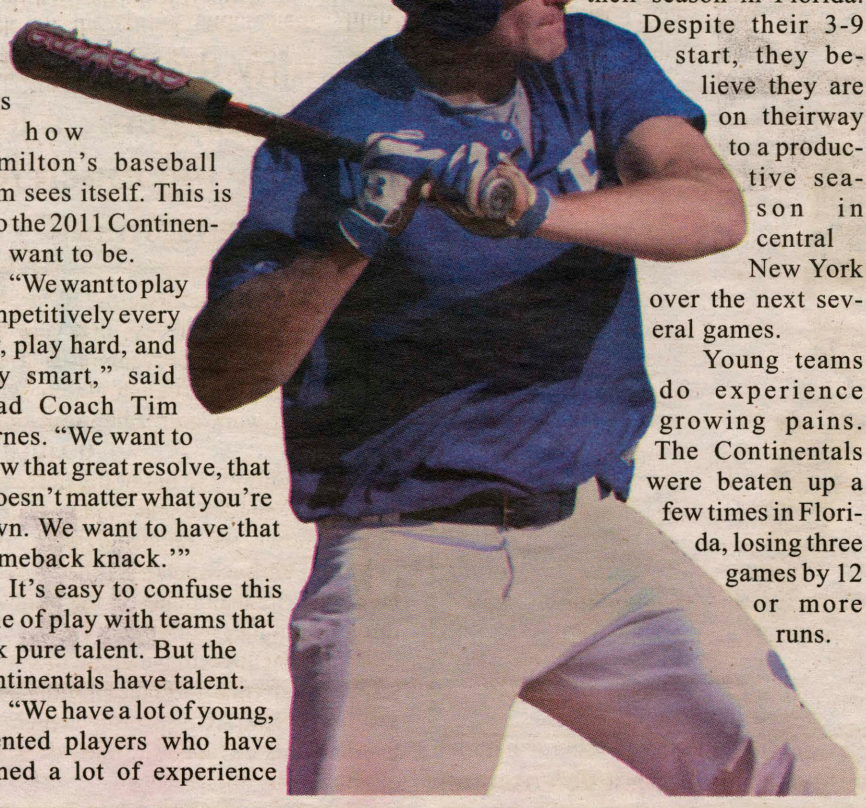
Leanos and Burchenal are on fire and show no signs of cooling off. As long as they keep scoring and the entire team stays focused on beating last season's record, the chances are high for the Continentals to snag not only a spot in the League Tournament, but maybe a championship.

PHOTO BY ANDY RICHARDSON '10
This season, offensive players like Citarella '13 have been Hamilton's strength.

Baseball blowouts encourage team to gain new intensity

by Dave Meisel '13
Sports Writer

They call them Grinders. They're gritty. They get dirty, take the extra base, brush you back, take you out making the pivot. They're a team other teams hate to play.



This is how Hamilton's baseball team sees itself. This is who the 2011 Continentals want to be.

"We want to play competitively every day, play hard, and play smart," said Head Coach Tim Byrnes. "We want to show that great resolve, that it doesn't matter what you're down. We want to have that 'comeback knack.'"

It's easy to confuse this style of play with teams that lack pure talent. But the Continentals have talent.

"We have a lot of young, talented players who have gained a lot of experience already this year," said senior catcher Kyle Mason. "We played in a lot of tight games in Florida, and we could be 8-4 right now."

While we froze up north during spring break, the Continentals have already playedhalf their season in Florida. Despite their 3-9 start, they believe they are on theirway to a productive season in central New York over the next several games.

Young teams do experience growing pains. The Continentals were beaten up a few times in Florida, losing three games by 12 or more runs.

Those three aside, the team has been outscored by only five runs over eight games. Aside from the blowout losses, the Continentals have only been outscored by more than two runs twice.

Hamilton has shown an impressive ability to come back from behind, which is what Grinders do. Their opponents scored first in all but one game on the trip, and the Continentals often were unable to hold leads. Still, they kept fighting. "Through big comebacks wins such as the one we had against Union [an 8-7 Hamilton victory after the Continentals trailed early on] we showed that we are a team that doesn't quit and will respond to adversity when faced with it," said senior Joe Buicko, the team's leadoff hitter.

The pitching staff is young, so the Continentals emphasize strong defense and need their offense to hand their pitchers some leads. "We have to make defensive plays. We didn't in Florida," Byrnes said. "Our lack of execution has been a problem, and our offense needs to give the pitching confidence."

So far, Kevin Prindle '13, Dan Kroening '11 and John Wulf '12 have headlined the Continentals' pitching staff. Prindle threw just eight innings in 2010, but has doubled that total so far in 2011, and has emerged as the team's

see ***Baseball****, page 15*

Defenseman Houk '13 named first-team All-American

by Daniel Hagemeier '11
Senior editor

When a defenseman of a varsity ice hockey team scores the majority of a team's goals, you can either assume that the team's forwards are unproductive or that the aforementioned defender brings a special skill set to the ice.

Fielding the second ranked NESCAC offense producing an average of 3.72 goals per game and featuring standout forwards like Michael DiMare '14 (15 goals) and Nick Anderson '14 (13 goals), the Hamilton Continentals certainly do not host a group an unsuccessful forwards.

Accordingly, the fact that defenseman Joe Houk '13 led the team in scoring with 17 goals and finished second in assists with 16 illustrates that Hamilton was able to recruit a player with extraordinary talent and versatility two years ago.

Houk's outstanding play resulted in his selection as the NESCAC player of the year in early March as well as his selection as a Division III First Team All-American. Houk finished the season as the third-ranked player in the NESCAC based on points and goals.

This achievement is even more

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